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## **Antique 1920's Baby Grand Piano Donated to The Georgia Ballet**

MARIETTA, GEORGIA – The Georgia Ballet received a wonderful surprise in June when an antique baby grand piano arrived at the ballet studios. The piano will be used in the largest studio during classes for students and professional dancers.

The stunning antique piano was donated in May by Mr. Gerald and Callie Lynch of Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Lynch works for UBS Financial Services in Atlanta. The couple was introduced to The Georgia Ballet through The Georgia Ballet Guild President Keith Miller, and after witnessing the uncommon grace and discipline of the school's students in their annual recital, decided that The Georgia Ballet would be the perfect home for their beloved piano.

"This is an incredible gift to The Georgia Ballet", said Michele Ziemann-DeVos, the Executive Director of the organization. "To dance to the music made possible by this wonderful instrument is an opportunity that most ballet students never have the chance to experience. Live music in the ballet classroom is part of an elite dance education, and will add to the value of the exceptional training they receive here."

The piano was made by J.C. Fischer of New York. J.C. Fischer is one of the oldest and most respected piano makers in the United States. The maker is noted for their qualities of simplicity and grace in the case design. The piano now residing at The Georgia Ballet is a circa 1920's art case piano, which was the J.C Fischer company's special product.

The Georgia Ballet staff accompanist, Tara Briner, particularly enjoys the new piano. The day after it arrived, she was ushered into the studio to view the piano as a complete surprise. "The joy on her face was evident when she saw the new addition to our studios", said Gina Hyatt-Mazon, the Artistic Director of The Georgia Ballet. "We cannot thank Mr. Lynch and his family enough for such a thoughtful donation".

Georgia Ballet students are now enjoying the full benefits of the beautiful piano. Students and professional dancers alike are turning and leaping to the accompaniment of the harmonious instrument during the summer programs at the school which run until August 14<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the school and professional company, please visit the website at [www.georgiaballet.org](http://www.georgiaballet.org) or call 770-528-0881.

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*The Georgia Ballet, comprised of a professional dance company and a dance school, was founded in 1960. The Georgia Ballet's mission is to promote excellence in ballet performance and training, foster an increased public awareness and appreciation for dance, and provide dedicated and talented dancers with the opportunity for advanced level training and professional performance venues.*